

might inch on out there in its track to the west. It is now, as we speak, starting to round the western end of Cuba, between the west end of Cuba and the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. But now the track, instead of sending it further west out of Florida, has it coming back.

I see my colleague from Florida, my distinguished senior Senator, is here. Just to share with him the latest 11 o'clock advisory from this morning, instead of coming in at Pensacola, it has now moved back east in the area of Destin, WaterColor, San Destin, that area. It doesn't look like we are going to get spared the third hurricane.

My family has been in Florida 175 years. I know there have been times in that span of time where we have had back-to-back hurricanes, but not hurricanes of the magnitude of a category 4 and then a category 2, a category 2 that had gusts up to 120 miles an hour, which is category 3. But never have I heard where we have had three major hurricanes in a row all hitting the same State. Mind you, as Hurricane Ivan is rounding the tip of western Cuba tonight, it is a category 5, and as it comes around Cuba, what does it hit? It hits the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Unless there is some shearing action at the top of the hurricane, it is even going to intensify more from the 160-mile-an-hour winds it has right now. No State should have to suffer three big ones in a row, yet this is what we are facing.

I ask, I implore, I plead with my colleagues, don't hesitate a moment to help our people in Florida.

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, before I get into this hurricane discussion, my eye caught an Associated Press newswire out early this morning. A Miami-Dade County police officer was shot several times after a driver she stopped fired nearly two dozen bullets at her with an AK-47 assault rifle.

The assault rifle ban has been in effect for over a decade. According to the Department of Justice, it expired this past weekend and now AK-47s are allowed to be purchased under U.S. law.

My family has been in Florida 175 years. I grew up in the country. I grew up on a ranch. I have hunted all my life. I have a son who is an avid hunter. We enjoy the outdoors, but we do not hunt with AK-47s. AK-47s and assault rifles are for killing, not for hunting.

Why is it that law enforcement, at every level of government—Federal, State and local—is against terminating this law that prohibited the sale of assault rifles? Why is law enforcement opposed to the termination of this law? For exactly this reason: A Miami-Dade County police officer was shot two dozen times by an AK-47. I rest my case, and I think it is a sad day that we could not reenact an extension of the law on the abolition of assault weap-

ons, primarily for the sake of law enforcement.

I am a defender of the constitutional right to bear arms. I am a defender of the right to have guns of all kinds except when getting to the common sense that it is not worth it in our society to be able to purchase AK-47s.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, as he leaves, I would like to commend Senator NELSON, my good friend and colleague, who has given an enormous amount of attention to two disastrous hurricanes that have already hit our State, both before and in the aftermath. He is now continuing that as we face yet another hurricane in our State.

I extend my appreciation, admiration, and, as a Floridian, my thanks.

INTELLIGENCE REFORM, III

Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, on Saturday the Nation paused to observe the third anniversary of the horrible tragedy of September 11, 2001. In the first hours and weeks after the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the Nation was shocked by what had been the unthinkable—a terrorist plot carried out on the soil of the United States of America.

We have seen grisly images of terrorism on our television screens from the Middle East, from Africa, from the Baltics, even from Great Britain. But now we have been hit here at home seemingly without warning, without the chance to have prevented the loss of over 3,000 innocent lives.

We now know that the terrorist attack of September 11 was the result of a sophisticated plot, a plot that developed over many months, a plot that required the coordination among a number of individuals and we know that had our national intelligence agencies been better organized and more focused on the problem of international terrorism this tragedy would have been avoided.

Incredibly, it is now more than 3 years after that tragic event and the basic problems in our national intelligence community that contributed to our vulnerability on September 11, 2001, are now for the first time being seriously considered. Let me be clear.

These problems were not a mystery before September 11. Before September 11, there had been a series of reviews of our national intelligence, reviews of our national intelligence in the context of terrorism and a series of very similar conforming recommendations. These weaknesses that contributed to September 11 were well known. They were well known by the administration and a majority in this Congress. What had occurred is that they had been essentially dismissed.

I am delighted that the good work of the 9/11 Commission has finally shaken the administration and my colleagues out of their lethargy.

In my last statement I identified five major problems and challenges of the U.S. intelligence community. Today I would like to suggest the direction the reforms should take in response to each of these problems and challenges.

First, the failure to adapt to a changing adversary and a changing global environment.

In the final report of the congressional joint inquiry, we optimistically stated:

The cataclysmic events of September 11, 2001 provided a unique and compelling mandate for strong leadership and constructive changes throughout the intelligence community.

However, the record is that since September 11 the intelligence community has been slow to accept the concept that a non-nation state can challenge the United States of America. We are all familiar with those scenes immediately after September 11 when the finger of responsibility was pointed not at al-Qaida, not at the Taliban, not at the place in which the terrorist plot had emerged but, rather, to Iraq because only a nation state could carry out a plot as complex and as devastating as September 11. We have taken only first steps to understand the real enemy, international terror.

Satellites will not give us the understanding, the capability, nor the intentions of Osama bin Laden. Yet the allocation of our intelligence resources continues to be dominated by the maintenance of the cold war satellite architecture and the development of yet a new generation of satellite technology. The recruitment and training of human intelligence agents has accelerated but remains inadequate. A sense of urgency is required to dramatically increase the number of men and women in the intelligence agencies with the command of the languages and the cultures of the Middle East, Central Asia, and China. In none of our intelligence agencies is this failure to transition to new threats and to new demand more evident than in the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The FBI is, first and foremost, a law enforcement agency and it deserves its reputation as the best in the world. In that important responsibility, the priorities and professional rewards are for investigating a crime after it has occurred, arresting the culprit, providing the court admissible evidence to secure a conviction, and sending the criminal to jail. That is not the orientation of an intelligence agency. There the objective is to understand the threat before the act has occurred so the plot can be interdicted.

So what should we do? The United States can begin by learning a lesson from our foe.

Since our unfinished war in Afghanistan, al-Qaida has regrouped and decentralized. It has established alliances with terrorist groups in over 60 countries. This may seem counterintuitive, but in public administration there is